

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A fuel tank for a motor vehicle whose inner face is processed with an inorganic coating agent comprising (A) fine particles carrying silver and/or copper and (B) inorganic fine particles, further comprising (C) at least one synthetic resin binder selected from the group consisting of an acrylic resin, an alkyd resin, an amino resin, a phenol resin, an epoxy resin, a polyamide resin, a fluororesin, a polyisocyanate, a polyester resin, an acryl- modified urethane resin, a silicone resin, and a silicone-acrylic resin, said inorganic coating agent having been dried and cured at a temperature of 80 to 200°C for 10 to 100 minutes.

2. (original): The fuel tank according to claim 1, wherein the fine particles carrying silver and/or copper are at least one selected from the group consisting of an aluminosilicate, a phosphate, a silicate, a carbonate, a metal oxide, a metal hydroxide, a metal nitride and a metal carbide.

3. (previously presented): The fuel tank according to claim 1, wherein the content of ingredient (A) is 2 to 20 parts by weight based on 100 parts by weight of the inorganic coating agent (in terms of solid content).

4. (original): The fuel tank according to claim 1, wherein ingredient (B) is fine particles or a fibrous material of at least one selected from the group consisting of silicon dioxide, aluminum silicate, calcium silicate, calcium magnesium silicate, calcium phosphate, magnesium silicate, zirconium silicate, mica, talc, kaolin, aluminum oxide, aluminum hydroxide, zinc oxide, zinc carbonate, barium carbonate, zinc hydroxide, titanium oxide whisker, iron oxide, zirconium oxide, zirconium hydroxide, calcium carbonate, silicon nitride, basic zinc molybdate, basic calcium molybdate, potassium titanate (whisker), tin oxide, silicate glass, a synthetic oxide, a silicate compound, a carbonate compound, carbon, strontium chromate, chromium oxide, nickel oxide, magnesium carbonate, silicon carbide and a natural mineral powder.

5. (original): The fuel tank according to claim 1, wherein the content of ingredient (B) is 5 to 50 parts by weight, in terms of solid content, based on 100 parts by weight of the coating agent (in terms of solid content).

6. (canceled).

7. (previously presented): The fuel tank according to claim 1, wherein the content of ingredient (C) is 7 to 40 parts by weight, in terms of solid content, based on 100 parts by weight of the coating agent (in terms of solid content).

8. (original): The fuel tank according to claim 1, wherein the inorganic coating agent contains (D) a dispersing medium.

9. (original): The fuel tank according to claim 8, wherein (D) the dispersing agent is water and/or an organic solvent.

10. (original): The fuel tank according to claim 8, wherein the content of (D) the dispersing agent is 25 to 75 parts by weight, in terms of solid content, based on 100 parts by weight of the coating agent (in terms of solid content).

11. (previously presented): A method for producing a fuel tank for a motor vehicle, which comprises applying the inorganic coating agent according to claim 1 onto an inner face of the fuel tank, followed by drying and curing.

12. (original): The method according to claim 11, wherein the amount of the coating agent applied is 80 to 300 g/m² by dry weight.

13. (canceled).

14. (previously presented): The fuel tank according to claim 2, wherein the content of ingredient (A) is 2 to 20 parts by weight based on 100 parts by weight of the inorganic coating agent (in terms of solid content).

15. (previously presented): A method for producing a fuel tank for a motor vehicle, which comprises applying the inorganic coating agent according to claim 2 onto an inner face of the fuel tank, followed by drying and curing.

16. (previously presented): A method for producing a fuel tank for a motor vehicle, which comprises applying the inorganic coating agent according to claim 3 onto an inner face of the fuel tank, followed by drying and curing.

17. (previously presented): A method for producing a fuel tank for a motor vehicle, which comprises applying the inorganic coating agent according to claim 4 onto an inner face of the fuel tank, followed by drying and curing.

18. (previously presented): A method for producing a fuel tank for a motor vehicle, which comprises applying the inorganic coating agent according to claim 5 onto an inner face of the fuel tank, followed by drying and curing.

19. (previously presented): A method for producing a fuel tank for a motor vehicle, which comprises applying the inorganic coating agent according to claim 1 onto an inner face of the fuel tank, followed by drying and curing.

20. (previously presented): A method for producing a fuel tank for a motor vehicle, according to claim 19, wherein the content of ingredient (C) is 7 to 40 parts by weight, in terms of solid content, based on 100 parts by weight of the coating agent (in terms of solid content).